

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Shunpei Yamazaki et al.	Art Unit :	3663
Serial No. :	10/753,524	Examiner :	Johannes P. Mondt
Filed :	January 9, 2004	Conf. No. :	7877
Title :	SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME		

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF MAY 24, 2006

Claims 21-23, 25 and 42 are currently pending, with claim 21 being independent.

The action notes that reference AR (JP JP07-130652) from the information disclosure statement filed on October 12, 2005, was not submitted and has not been considered. Applicant respectfully submits that, as evidenced by the image file wrapper of the PAIR system, reference AR was submitted. In particular, this reference is a 10 page document and is included in the image file wrapper as the fifth foreign reference dated October 12, 2005. Accordingly, since reference AR was submitted, applicant submits that it should be considered and asks that the Examiner consider the reference and provide a copy of the form PTO-1449 with reference AR initialed in the Examiner's next communication.

Claims 21 and 42 have been rejected as being anticipated by Iwasaki (JP 08-288515). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Iwasaki does not describe or suggest an arrangement in which lattices are continuously connected to each other at a grain boundary of the semiconductor film, as recited in claim 21. The rejection indicates that this feature is shown by the grain boundary 23 of Iwasaki, which is shown in Fig. 3F and discussed at col. 12, lines 17-18. In particular, apparently recognizing that Iwasaki makes no mention of lattice connections, the rejection appears to argue that the continuous connection of the lattices would be inherent in any grain boundary.

Applicant disagrees and notes that continuous connection of the lattices is not inherent in a grain boundary. For example, as discussed at page 16, lines 5-22 and shown in Figs. 17C and 17D of the present application, a grain boundary may include defects such as dangling bonds that

may result in reduced performance. Accordingly, for at least this reason, continuous connection of lattices would not have been inherent in Iwasaki and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 22 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Iwasaki in view of Erhart (U.S. Patent No. 5,572,211). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Erhart, which is cited as showing the use of a capacitor, does not remedy the failure of Iwasaki to describe or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 21.

Claims 23 and 25 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Iwasaki in view of den Boer (U.S. Patent No. 5,539,219). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because den Boer, which is cited as showing features of a liquid crystal device, does not remedy the failure of Iwasaki to describe or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 21.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The fee in the amount of \$120 for the one-month extension of time is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/25/06



John F. Hayden
Reg. No. 37,640

Customer No. 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W. - 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331
/adt
40364272.doc